



I

Urban District Council of Exmouth



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1967

TOWN HALL,
EXMOUTH.

mon Exmouth U.D.C 1967 I

E. M Wright E203 22 OCT 1969

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EXMOUTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
EXMOUTH.

June 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December 1967, and which includes sections kindly supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector and the Housing and Welfare Officer.

From the statistical section of the Report it will be seen that, according to the Registrar General, the estimated mid-year population of the District has increased from 21,740 in 1966 to 22,420 in 1967, and that the number of inhabited dwellings has also increased from 8,044 in 1966 to 8,435 in 1967.

In 1967, 335 babies were born, which represents a standardised live birth rate of 21.6, which is higher than the national rate of 17.2. The number of illegitimate births fell from 33 in 1966 to 26 in 1967.

There was a considerable decrease in the number of deaths in 1967, there being 380 registered, as compared with 470 in the previous year. The standardised death rate of 8.45 was lower than that for England and Wales - 11.2.

There was also a fall in the infant mortality rate (deaths of infants under one year) and the rate of 6.0 was the lowest on record. The national rate was 18.3. The two infants who died both suffered from congenital malformations.

No serious cases of infectious diseases occurred during the year. Of the 93 cases notified 84 were measles of a relatively mild type, and no cases had to be admitted to hospital.

Finally, may I take this opportunity of thanking the members of the Council and the staff for their interest and co-operation which they have extended to me during the past year.

I have the honour to be
Your Obedient Servant

L. G. ANDERSON

Medical Officer of Health

S T A F FMEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

L. G. Anderson, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D. R. Redgwell, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

B. J. Stowell, M.A.P.H.I.

CLERK TO MEDICAL OFFICE OF HEALTH AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

Miss J. E. Strudwick

1. STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	5,295
Resident Population mid-year 1967 (as estimated by the Registrar General)	22,420
Number of inhabited dwellings (31st March 1967)	8,435
Rateable value as at 31st March 1967	£1,054,698
Estimated product of a penny rate 1967-68.	£4,350

2. VITAL STATISTICS(a) Live Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	152	157	309
Illegitimate	13	13	26
Total	165	170	335

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population 14.9

Standardised live birth rate per 1,000 estimated
resident population 21.6

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated civilian
population England & Wales 17.2

(b) Still Births

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	1	3

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births 8.9

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births,
England and Wales 14.8

(c) Deaths

Males	Females	Total
160	220	380

Corrected death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population 16.9

Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated resident
population 8.45

Death rate per 1,000 civilian population, England & Wales 11.2

Deaths from maternal causes nil

(d) Infant Mortality (deaths of infants under one year)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	2	-	2

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 6.0

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births England & Wales 18.3

3. LIVE BIRTH RATE (rate per 1,000 estimated resident population)

During 1967, 165 males and 170 females were born, a total of 335 babies. Compared with 1966 the total births increased by 4. The standardised rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 21.6, which is higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole (17.2)

The standardised live birth rate during the last ten years was as follows:

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Exmouth	14.1	13.6	15.0	14.2	15.2	14.9	16.3	14.3	15.2	14.9
Standardised	16.9	14.3	18.0	15.5	16.6	19.1	20.8	18.3	19.5	21.6
England & Wales	16.4	16.5	17.1	17.4	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.0	17.7	17.2

4. ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATE (rate per 1,000 live births)

Of the 335 children born during 1967, 26 were illegitimate. The rate per 1,000 live births was 77.5, compared with 33 illegitimate births in 1966, representing an illegitimate birth rate of 100.0

The illegitimate birth rate during the last ten years is as follows:

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Exmouth	22.9	63.2	60.9	65.0	69.0	75.6	109.1	69.0	100.0	77.5

5. STILL BIRTHS (rate per 1,000 live and still births)

As in 1966, there were three still births in 1967. The still birth rate of 9.0 was lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, 14.8; the following table shows the still birth rate for the last ten years.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Exmouth	15.2	19.3	27.9	3.6	13.0	6.6	11.8	6.6	9.3	9.0
England & Wales	21.6	20.7	19.7	18.7	18.1	17.3	16.3	15.7	15.3	14.8

6. DEATHS

During 1967, 380 persons normally resident in the urban district died, 160 males and 220 females). This represents a corrected death rate of 16.9 but when allowances for age and sex distribution have been made, represents a standardised death rate of 8.45. This is lower than the rate for England and Wales, viz. 11.2.

The following table shows the corrected and standardised death rates for Exmouth for the last ten years:

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Corrected	18.5	17.3	19.7	17.3	17.5	21.3	19.1	19.3	21.6	16.9
Standardised	11.5	10.9	12.6	12.2	12.6	13.5	11.8	11.0	12.1	8.45
England & Wales	11.7	11.6	11.5	12.0	11.9	12.5	11.3	11.5	11.7	11.2

Age at Death

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Males	70.1	68.1	71.4	71.0	70.1	73.1	72.2	71.3	71.0	71.9
Females	77.1	72.6	75.3	73.6	76.4	76.1	75.8	75.1	73.3	75.2
Both Sexes	74.3	70.5	73.3	72.6	73.4	74.8	74.2	73.2	72.1	73.8
England M	67.7	67.8	68.0	68.1	68.1	68.0	68.8	68.9		
& Wales F	73.3	73.6	73.6	73.9	74.0	73.9	74.5	74.7		

Expectation of Life

According to statistics given by the Registrar General, a male child aged one year in 1967 can expect to live for a further 69 years, whereas a female child of the same age has an average life expectancy of 75 years.

Causes of Death

The following table shows the causes of death. (Data supplied by the Registrar General).

	Males	Females	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	-	1
Other Infective Diseases	1		1
Cancer			
Malignant neoplasm, uterus		2	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	7	13
Malignant neoplasm, lungs & bronchus	8	4	12
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	10	10
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	15	18	33
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	3	4
Diabetes	-	2	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	24	46	70
Coronary disease, angina	53	43	96
Hypertension with heart disease	3	7	10
Other heart disease	9	24	33
Other circulatory diseases	10	8	18
Influenza	-	1	1
Pneumonia	2	5	7
Bronchitis	8	3	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	3	6
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	-	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Congenital malformations	2	2	4
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	25	31
All other accidents	1	4	5
Suicide	1	2	3
TOTAL	160	220	380

Causes of Death

As in 1966, the most prevalent cause of death was heart disease, 139 cases; intracranial vascular lesions, such as cerebral haemorrhage and thrombosis were responsible for 70 deaths. Cancer was the cause of 70 deaths.

Deaths due to Accidents

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause</u>
1. Female	84 years	Carbon monoxide (coal gas) poisoning. Death due to misadventure.
2. Female	88 years	Bronchopneumonia, fracture of femur. Death due to misadventure.
3. Female	95 years	Bronchopneumonia, atherosclerosis, fractured neck of femur. Death due to misadventure.
4. Female	72 years	Bronchopneumonia, haematoma of thigh following a fall. Death due to misadventure.
5. Male	46 years	Fracture of skull and contusion of brain after a fall. Death due to accident.

Deaths due to Suicide

<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Cause</u>
1. Female	49 years	Carbon monoxide (coal gas) poisoning - took her own life while the balance of her mind was disturbed.
2. Male	44 years	Gunshot wound to the heart - took his own life while the balance of his mind was disturbed.
3. Female	44 years	Barbiturate poisoning - caused her own death while the balance of her mind was disturbed.

The following table shows the incidence of death at various age groups. (From returns supplied by the local registrar of births and deaths).

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
Under 1 year	2	-	2	0.52
1 & under 5	1	-	1	0.26
5+	1	2	3	0.78
15+	-	-	-	-
25+	-	-	-	-
35+	5	3	8	2.1
45+	4	8	12	3.1
55+	17	27	44	11.5
65+	53	54	107	28.1
75+	78	126	204	53.6
T O T A L	160	220	380	

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate represents the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births registered. During 1967, two male infants under the age of one year died. This represents an infant mortality rate of 6.0, as compared with that for England and Wales, of 18.3.

The following table gives the infant mortality rate for the last ten years:

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
No. of deaths under 1 year.	4	12	3	4	5	4	4	7	4	2
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	15.5	47.4	10.8	14.4	16.4	13.1	11.8	23.1	12.1	6.0

The causes of the deaths of the two infants were as follows:

Sex	Age	Cause of Death
M.	15 minutes	Congenital malformations
M.	12 weeks	Congenital heart disease

CANCER

Deaths from cancer decreased from 81 in 1966 to 70 in 1967, but in relation to the total number of deaths, the rate per cent increased from 17.4 in 1966 to 18.4 in 1967.

The parts of the body affected are given in the following table:

Site	Male	Female	Total
Stomach	6	7	13
Lungs & Bronchus	8	4	12
Breast	-	10	10
Uterus	-	2	2
All other sites	15	18	33
T O T A L	29	41	70

The following table shows the incidence of lung cancer compared with other forms of cancer for the last ten years:

	Cancer of the Lung		All other sites	Total
	Male	Female		
1958	10	1	48	59
1959	4	2	44	50
1960	9	2	50	61
1961	9	1	47	57
1962	11	5	51	67
1963	7	2	50	59
1964	10	3	62	75
1965	8	6	62	76
1966	12	4	65	81
1967	8	4	58	70

The incidence of deaths from cancer during the last ten years are as follows:

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
No. of cases	59	50	61	57	67	59	75	76	81	70
Percentage total no. of deaths	17.5	15.6	16.7	16.9	17.4	15.9	19.1	18.7	17.4	18.4
Rate per 1,000 resident population	3.24	2.70	2.30	2.90	3.38	2.85	3.60	3.60	3.73	3.11

9. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During the year 93 cases of notifiable infectious diseases were notified, which is 5 more than in the previous year.

(a) Measles

There were 84 cases of Measles in 1967, and these were all of a mild nature.

The seasonal incidence of measles in Exmouth was as follows:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
18	13	6	11	4	16	13	1	-	-	1	1
37			31			14			2		

10. TUBERCULOSIS

The incidence of new cases of Tuberculosis brought to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health during the period 1958-1967 is as follows:

		1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967
Pulmonary	M.	4	5	1	5	2	1	1	1	3	-
	F.	2	-	1	3	2	-	-	-	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	F.	2	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	3
Total		9	5	4	8	4	2	2	1	5	4

Table showing the incidence of all forms of Tuberculosis -
(Rates per 1,000 estimated resident population).

YEAR	CASES NOTIFIED (Per 1,000 resident population)	DEATH RATE
1952	0.93	0.29
1953	0.93	0.06
1954	0.63	0.06
1955	0.97	0.11
1956	0.78	-
1957	0.44	0.11
1958	-	-
1959	0.49	0.05
1960	0.27	-
1961	0.41	0.05
1962	0.20	0.05
1963	0.10	-
1964	0.09	-
1965	0.05	0.05
1966	0.23	-
1967	0.18	0.05

11. NATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES

The Health Service provided under Parts II and III of the National Health Service Act applicable to your district are briefly set out below:

Part IIa. Hospital FacilitiesGeneral

The urban district is well served by the Exmouth Hospital, Claremont Grove, Exmouth, telephone 4381, where there is accommodation for:

Males	13 beds	
Females	15 beds	
Children	5 beds	General and Private 12 beds.

In addition to the Exmouth Hospital, use is made of:

The Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Southernhay East, Exeter.
Tel. 72261 - 305 beds

Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter.
Tel. 76481 - 164 beds

Exeter City Hospital, Heavitree Road, Exeter.
Tel. 77351 - 257 beds

Princess Elizabeth Hospital, Wonford Road, Exeter.
Tel. 54217 - 116 beds

West of England Eye Infirmary, Magdalen Street, Exeter
Tel. 73183 - 62 beds

The plastic surgery centre for Devon is held at the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital on the second Thursday in every month from 9.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Mr. Fitz-Gibbons and Mr. Bodenham of the South West Regional Hospital Board attend.

Maternity

Redhills Hospital, St. Thomas, Exeter - 10 maternity beds

Exeter City Hospital, Exeter - 49 maternity beds and approx 31 cots.

Isolation

Cases of infectious diseases are admitted to the Exeter City Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Tel. 67158, as in previous years.

Smallpox

Should your Medical Officer of Health require the services of a consultant, arrangements have been made to call upon:

East Devon Area

Dr. E. J. G. Wallace, Health Centre,
Westham Road, Weymouth, Dorset.
Tel. Weymouth 1645

Cornwall and Devon to the River Exe

Dr. W. H. St. John-Brooke, West Cornwall Hospital,
Penzance, Cornwall, Tel. 2382

Any cases of smallpox are now sent to the hospital at Liskeard.

12. b. Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological and Serological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Church Lane, Heavitree, Exeter, telephone 77833, under the direction of Dr. B. Moore, whose ready co-operation and help I wish to acknowledge.

13. c. Venereal Disease

Under the present scheme, free advice and treatment is available to all persons at the following centre:

Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital, Exeter

	Males	Females
Monday	7 - 8 p.m.	Monday 6 - 7 p.m.
Friday	2 - 3 p.m.	Friday 3 - 4 p.m.

14. d. Ambulance Facilities

Three ambulances are maintained at the Ambulance Station, Bastin Hall, Exmouth. All are equipped with radio communication systems.

In the district served, the ambulances have carried 2,160 patients and have attended 65 street accidents and 15 home accidents. The total mileage covered during the year was 37,721 miles.

Part III5. Care of Mothers and Children

There are four Health Visitors assigned to this district. Help is given at the various centres by lady volunteers, whose assistance is greatly appreciated.

The two Medical Officers who attend the Infant Welfare Centres are: Dr. N. E. R. Archer of Budleigh Salterton, and your Medical Officer of Health. The centres are the Devon County Council Clinic, Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, on Wednesday and Friday, from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and Dr. Archer attends the Church Hall, Littleham, every 2nd and 4th Monday from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Exmouth Clinic

No. of sessions held	Total attendances by infants	Total attendances by children 1-5
99	1,736 (No. of new cases 295)	927 (No. of new cases 51)

Littleham Clinic

No. of sessions held	Total attendances by infants	Total attendances by children 1-5
21	185 (No. of new cases 33)	173 (No. of new cases 17)

Welfare foods are supplied at the Exmouth Infant Welfare Centre on Wednesday and Friday afternoons of each week and at the Church Hall, Littleham, every Monday afternoon, and also at the W.R.V.S. Headquarters, 2 Bicton Street, on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 2.00 - 4.30 p.m.

16.

Maternity

There are six District Nurses in this area, viz:

Nurse Box	Nurse Hammond	Nurse Crosby
Nurse Tyler	Nurse Shaw	Nurse Weatherly

Nurse Stirk left in October 1967.

They are based at 11 Albion Hill, Exmouth, telephone 2237. Each Nurse is in possession of a motor car. All are fully trained in analgesics and three apparatus are available for their use. Three oxygen resuscitation apparatus are also available at the Nurses' Home for use when required.

17.

Care of Premature Infants

When necessary, arrangements can be made for the admission of a premature baby and its mother to the nearest maternity unit, the Exeter City Hospital, where there are 49 maternity beds and 31 cots for premature babies.

18.

Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children

A well equipped dental surgery is provided at the Exmouth Clinic at Withycombe Village Road, Exmouth, at which dental treatment can be given to mothers and young children, every Friday, and by appointment.

The following paragraphs have kindly been supplied by the Housing and Welfare Officer, Mr. E. Ashton.

19.

LETTINGS POLICY

The Housing Report submitted to the Council for 1967 emphasised the need for a new look at the lettings policy.

It was appreciated that no letting system can take into account every set of circumstances and suggestions contained in the Report and eventually adopted by the Council gave the Housing Committee an opportunity - providing sufficient properties were available to let - of considering a wider range of applicants, particularly those in the family group.

The proposals which were approved and outlined below were agreed on the assumption that the Ministry would approve a reasonable annual allocation, however in view of the present economic situation, as further building is being restricted to bungalows for the elderly, the full implications of the new look at the letting policy will to some degree have to be postponed for the time being.

In order to implement this change of policy within a reasonable time the Council agreed to a qualifying period for new applicants of twelve months, in order to prevent too much consideration being given to very recent applications for rehousing. It was also intended that the qualifying period should provide a stabilizing period before a family was rehoused. This change of policy did not however preclude the consideration for rehousing of priority applications irrespective of the date of the application.

The Council also agreed to consider for rehousing young childless couples on the same category as couples with one child, in view of the reluctance of many of them to have children whilst living in poor accommodation or where a lease specifically excludes children.

MEALS ON WHEELS AND LUNCHEON CLUBS

The meals service operated by the W.R.V.S. was extended to three days a week during the year for approximately sixty elderly housebound people in the town.

Luncheon Clubs have also been started at Clayton House and Ratcliffe House for elderly people who find it difficult to provide a nourishing hot meal, but who can attend one of the Centres. At Clayton House the meals are provided by the W.R.V.S. and at Ratcliffe House they are cooked by a group of the elderly residents. Help in both cases is provided by elderly residents and supervised by resident wardens.

CO-OPERATION WITH COUNTY WELFARE SERVICE

Co-operation, particularly with the County Welfare Department has always been of the highest standard. Partly as a result of this all the Council's old people's dwellings are covered by a resident warden service; two community centres are in full use and a third is under construction.

There is also close co-operation with regard to problem tenants, particularly those with rent arrears and monthly meetings to have been arranged between the responsible officers to decide on action with regard to individual cases, in order to prevent eviction because of debt.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

Probably the most important decision made during the year was the appointment of an assistant Housing Officer as recommended in the Work Study Report on Housing Administration. This has enabled all the Report's recommendations to be carried out, in particular:

- a. Supervision by the Housing Officer of all work carried out by the Direct Works Dept., in addition to normal council house maintenance.
- b. More detailed consideration being given to the programme of work in general.
- c. Detailed inspection by the Housing Officer of all items of repair reported by Council tenants.
- d. The introduction of a system of costing to assist in the financial control of the repairs programme.

The assistant Housing Officer is a social worker with considerable experience in housing management and is responsible for carrying out the Council's welfare policies and in particular all matters relating to lettings, tenancy problems and the Warden service.

ANALYSIS OF THE HOUSING NEEDACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

	3 Bedroomed	2 Bedroomed	1 Bedroomed	TOTAL	Grand Total of Housing Applicants Including A/H
October 1967 (10 months)	123	38	104	265	450
December 1966	101	45	86	232	443
December 1965	132	35	95	262	466
December 1964	126	33	87	246	455
December 1963	129	34	88	251	477
December 1962	101	28	77	206	411
March 1962	81	39	82	202	384
March 1961	114	43	102	259	406
March 1960	77	33	62	172	342
December 1958	73	32	52	157	316
December 1957	79	34	35	148	303
December 1956	75	36	27	138	250

ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED

	3 Bedroomed	2 Bedroomed	1 Bedroomed	Total
October 1967 (10 months)	69	14	25	108 *
December 1966	36	6	55	97 *
December 1965	29	3	14	46
December 1964	32	3	11	46
December 1963	25	7	8	40
December 1962	48	3	49	100 *
March 1962	50	5	30	85 *
March 1961	28	2	31	61 *
March 1960	24	6	7	37
December 1958	41	8	8	57
December 1957	34	5	9	48
December 1956	42	-	8	50

* Including New Buildings

NEW APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

October 1967 (10 months)	163	Number considered to be in need of rehousing					107
1966	180	158
1965	190	152
1964	168	107
1963	200	133
1962	196	127
1961	190	116
1960	197	146
1959	210	115
1958	196	122
1957	198	118
1956	225	165

The following paragraphs have kindly been supplied by the Senior Public Health Inspector.

20. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

(a) General

The scope of this includes visits and inspections in relation to the work described under all the various sections which follow, but in particular, work under the provisions of the Public Health Acts, including nuisances, Housing Acts, and the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

During the year, 98 complaints were received. This was a slight decrease on last year's total. The various matters were investigated and the necessary action was taken in those cases with which the Council had power to act.

In the course of this work, 22 nuisances were abated. Drains at 12 premises were cleared (two in default of the owner after service of a Statutory Notice under Section 17 of the Public Health Act, 1961). In one instance, owing to a serious leakage, 60 feet of drain was relaid in pitch fibre pipes. In another case the channel in the interceptor was renewed. Also a leaking joint between the W.C. outgo and the soil pipe in a flat was repaired.

This year 4 complaints of alleged noise nuisance were received. This was an increase compared with last year and reflects the growing present day tendency to complain about noise as being a nuisance, especially during the evening and at night. Upon investigation all these cases appeared to be justified and I am pleased to record that all were remedied informally upon advice by the Department, with the co-operation of the occupiers of the premises producing the noise.

(b) Housing

During the course of the year a survey was made of the houses in two streets in the older part of the town. The streets concerned were Little Albion Place and Victoria Place, and comprised a total of 12 houses, 6 houses in each street. The rear of Little Albion Place is bounded by high buildings, whilst the rear of Victoria Place is congested. All are old terraced-type houses with small rooms.

The original intention was to explore the possibility of dealing with the area as one block by means of a Clearance Order under the Housing Act, 1957.

At a later stage, at the request of the Council, the remainder of the houses in Albion Place, (3), and one house in Union Street, adjoining the area were inspected.

Upon consideration of all the facts, together with the extent of the various defects, it was felt that six of these houses were not capable of being classified as unfit, so it was impossible to proceed with a Clearance Area.

Therefore, the remaining 10 houses were dealt with individually by means of time and place notices under the Housing Act, with a view to Closing Orders being made.

In addition, three other properties were represented to the Council for individual action by Closing Orders.

Although consideration was given to a number of houses during the year, in actual fact the Council were only able to make a Closing Order under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957, in respect of one of those houses. They also accepted an Undertaking with regard to a house which was represented at the end of the previous year.

With regard to three properties, repairs were carried out to render them fit and as a result the Council were able to revoke Closing Orders previously made on the dwellings.

As a result of informal action by the Department, a further 13 houses were repaired to a satisfactory standard. The chief defects concerned roofs, eaves gutters, W.C. pans (renewals), drains, etc. One yard to a house, formerly inadequately drained of refuse water, was provided with proper drainage.

(c) Improvement Grants

(i) Standard Grants

During the year 27 applications were approved, of which 17 were in respect of tenanted dwellings. The amount of money paid in grants was £3,094, an average of £119 per dwelling.

The 'standard amenities' provided were:

Fixed bath in a bathroom	23	Wash hand basin	26
Hot water supply	26	Internal W.C.	17
Ventilated foodstore	15		

The grant was higher than the normal limit in three instances where new structures had to be built to provide the bathroom, and in one case where it was necessary to provide a septic tank drainage system in addition to the standard amenities.

Towards the end of the year a block of 44 houses was visited house by house in an endeavour to obtain the provision of the standard amenities in those houses which were without them.

(ii) Discretionary Grants

No applications were received during the year.

21. DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Visits made regarding disinfection - 11.

In one house a residual insectidal spray was used for destroying fleas, and the kitchen and larder of a council house was treated for silverfish.

Wasp Nests

This was a very busy year for the destruction of wasp nests. There were 28 to be dealt with.

22. CAMPING AND CARAVANNING

There are three sites within the Urban District, as follows:

(a) Sandy Bay Holiday Park

Fields at Westdown Farm, Littleham, bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers: 189, 190, 197, 198, 200, 201, 203, 524, 512, 514, 515, 516, 519, 520, 521, 526, 531, 532, 534, 535, and 536.

Area = 159.7 acres

Licensed for 2,650 moveable dwellings, which represents a density of 17 caravans to the acre.

(b) Higher Orcombe

Fields at Higher Orcombe bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers: 500, 502, 504, 506, and 507.

Area = 24.7 acres

Licensed for 82 trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of three moveable dwellings to the acre.

(c) Orcombe Heights

Fields at Orcombe Heights bearing the Ordnance Survey numbers: 499 and 503.

Area = 22.3 acres

Licensed for 50 tents or trailer caravans of a type approved by the Council, which represents a density of 2 moveable dwellings to the acre.

(d) Camping Census

At the request of the Devon County Council Planning Authority, the annual Camping Census was taken during the third week in August, although this was not the Official Bank Holiday week.

(e) Camping at Unlicensed Sites

(i) Prattshayes Farm - This site is still the only camping site for tents in the district and as it is open for only the peak holiday weeks, it does not come within the licensing provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936. Consequently by agreement with the Planning Authority, the number of tents is restricted to 32, and it is evident that many campers have to pass on elsewhere in view of the lack of sites for tents. Conditions at this site were satisfactory.

(ii) Scattered Sites - An organised camp took place at St. John's Farm, St. John's, during August.

During the year 31 visits were made to the permanent holiday sites, whilst 38 visits were made in connection with temporary camping.

23.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD(a) Registered Premises

The number and type of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955, are:

The preparation or manufacture of preserved food	-	31
The manufacture of ice cream	-	5
The sale of ice cream	-	149
The total number of dairies registered under the Milk & Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959	-	21

(b) Unsound Food

Food condemned as unfit for human consumption consisted of:

<u>Canned Meats</u>	lbs.	ozs.	cwts.	qrts.	lbs.	ozs.
Cooked ham (decomposition)	866	1				
Corned beef "	16	10				
Ox tongues "	18	0				
Stewed steak "	5	13				
Luncheon meat "	107	8				
Chopped ham and pork "	25	8				
			9	1	3	8
<u>Other Foods</u>						
18 chickens (mouldy)	55	0				
Bacon (decomposition)	12	0				
				2	11	0
<u>Tins of Food (Assorted)</u>						
106 tins (punctured, blown or leaking)	193	10				
			1	2	25	10
Total			11	2	12	2

All condemned food is disposed of by burying at the Council's refuse tip.

(c) Food Retailers

During the course of the year 100 visits were made to butchers shops, fish shops, fried fish shops, bakers shops, greengrocers and grocers shops.

In the course of routine visiting the following matters were dealt with. At a butchers shop two preparation rooms were cleansed, walls repaired, W.C. cleansed and an additional refuse bin provided. One grocers preparation room was redecorated and hot water supply provided to the wash hand basin. Also one grocers shop was redecorated. With regard to greengrocers, one shop and storeroom has been redecorated and walls repaired at one premises. In another case improvements were made to a storeroom. Advice was again given on the importance of proper stock rotation.

(d) Bakehouses

All seven bakehouses in the district are operated by mechanical power and of these six are classed as factories since more than one person is employed in them. There was no cause for unsatisfactory comment in regard to these premises.

(e) Catering Establishments

At only one premises was attention required when it was necessary to require the provision of hot water to a sink in a cafe. The general standard maintained in these premises continues to remain satisfactory.

(f) Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes

Although there are always difficulties with the employment of seasonal staff, it has been found that, through the co-operation of all concerned, the general standard of hygiene in these premises has continued to be good.

(g) Public Houses

As a result of inspections, satisfactory circumstances were found at these establishments.

(h) Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

The number and type of food premises to which these Regulations apply are given in the table overleaf, which also indicates certain information requested by the Minister of Health.

It will be noted that these Regulations apply to all the above types of food premises mentioned in the following table, and their requirements were checked with the conditions existing at the premises during routine visits. The items dealt with have been included in their respective headings above.

(i) Food Hygiene (Markets Stalls & Delivery Vehicles) Regulations 1966

The above are a new set of Regulations which came into force on 1st January 1967. They were jointly made by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, under the provisions of the Food & Drugs Act, 1955. These Regulations lay down requirements as to food hygiene in respect of markets, stalls and delivery vehicles.

Briefly, these Regulations apply to covered and uncovered markets, delivery vehicles, mobile shops, stalls and trading in the open air generally. They strengthen the present food hygiene requirements for these forms of trading and revoke or supersede the corresponding requirements in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Letters have been sent to bakeries regarding bread vans and to various itinerant food salesmen (greengrocers especially) about lack of facilities for handwashing, first aid materials, refuse containers, name and address, etc.

With regard to delivery vehicles, the requirements of the Regulations (name and address, provision of washing facilities, and first aid materials if food unwrapped during delivery) have been referred to the persons carrying on the type of businesses controlled by the Regulations.

Trade Class	(i) No. of Premises	(ii) No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.16 - (wash hand basin)	(iii) No. of Premises to which Reg.19 applies - facilities for washing food and equipment	(iv) No. of Premises fitted to comply with Reg.19.
Butchers	15	15	15	15
Dairies & Milk Distributors	35	35	35	35
Fish Shops	5	5	5	5
Fried Fish Shops	9	9	9	9
Baker's Shops	11	11	-	-
Bakehouses	7	7	7	7
Grocers	52	52	52	52
Restaurant; and Cafes	33	33	33	33
Hotels, Guest Houses and Nursing Homes	72	72	72	72
School Kitchens and Staff Canteens	16	16	16	16
Public Houses	23	23	23	23
Greengrocers	18	18	18	18
Other Food Premises	16	16	3	3
T O T A L	312	312	288	288

(j) Milk Supply

The Devon County Council Sampling Officer has taken samples of raw milk and no reports of *Brucella Abortus* were received this year.

(k) Ice Cream

During the year, 22 samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory and the results were as follows:

Grade I -100%

Below is given a tabulated statement of the results of samples since 1958.

Grade	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	
1	No.	33	36	42	41	36	44	20	31	17	22
	%	78.8	88.0	91.0	79.0	74.0	68.0	69.0	93.9	80.9	100.0
2	No.	5	4	3	8	8	1	3	2	3	-
	%	11.9	10.0	7.0	15.0	16.0	2.0	10.0	6.1	14.3	-
3	No.	3	1	-	1	2	1	2	-	1	-
	%	4.7	2.0	-	2.0	4.0	2.0	7.0	-	4.8	-
4	No.	2	-	1	2	3	-	4	-	-	-
	%	4.7	-	2.0	4.0	6.0	-	14.0	-	-	-

This is the first occasion for several years that the results of all the samples of ice cream taken during the year were reported upon as Grade I. It is especially gratifying since most of the samples were not of the pre-packed kind, and were of loose ice cream served from open cans. I congratulate all those concerned in the handling and serving of ice cream upon this splendid achievement.

As in previous years, good relations have been maintained in all cases and copies of the Laboratory reports have been supplied to the people concerned. Although there are five premises registered for manufacturing ice cream, at only one of these premises was ice cream actually made. Whilst 149 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream, at only 107 of these premises was ice cream sold.

(1) Shellfish

Visits were made at regular intervals to the shellfish factory at the Docks occupied by Messrs. Exe Shellfish Ltd. During the year 16 samples of their shellfish products were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory. All were found to be satisfactory.

(m) The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

At the present time, all liquid egg used in the area has been received from Egg Marketing Board plants which have already had their product sampled at source.

(n) Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

4. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949Rodent Control(a) General

Again this was a very busy year for Rodent Control, since the number of complaints was considerably higher than last year, there being 131 complaints this year compared with 100 last year. As a result of investigating these complaints 90 properties were found to be infested.

The Rodent Operator has carried out 113 treatments and as 3 of these were in business premises, the cost of these latter were recovered from the owners concerned.

(b) Sewers

During June the annual test baiting of 10% of the sewer manholes was carried out. The results of this test indicated that there was no rat infestation in the Council's sewers.

(c) Council Property

The following properties of the Council were treated in the course of the year:

Refuse Tip - Pound Lane
 Refuse Tip - Mudbank
 Boldbrook
 Former Brickworks Site - Mudbank
 Imperial Recreation Ground & Car Park

Twenty-seven visits were made regarding Rodent Control.

25. FACTORIES ACT, 1961(a) Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of: Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Secs.1,2,3,4,& 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	4	4	-	-
2. Factories not included in 1. in which Sec.7 is enforced by local authorities	94	39	1	-
3. Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding outworkers premises)	10	10	1	-
T O T A L	108	53	2	-

(b) Cases in which defects were found:

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
a. insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
b. unsuitable or defective	1	2	-	1	-
c. not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences against the Act, not including offences relating to 'Outwork'	-	-	-	-	-
T O T A L	2	3	-	2	-

During the year nine building sites were visited and found to have satisfactory sanitation. In one instance at a building site our attention was drawn to insufficient accommodation by the Factory Inspector, whereupon the matter was taken up with the firm concerned who provided suitable sanitary accommodation.

(c) Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

Where work is given out from a factory and done in a private dwelling house it is termed 'homework' and the person who does the work is an 'outworker'. This control applies to certain classes of work as specified by regulations made by the Secretary of State. The occupier of the factory concerned with outworkers is required to keep a list of all outworkers and send a copy of the list to the local authority during the months of February and August of each year.

Part VIII of the Act. - 'Outwork'

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134	
	No. of outworkers in August List required by Sec.133 (1)(c)	No. of cases in default in sending lists to Council	No. of prosecutions for failing to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served
Wearing apparel, making etc. cleaning washing	7	-	-	-	-
Brass & brass articles	19	-	-	-	-
Making of baskets	8	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	34	-	-	-	-

26.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Throughout the year, work has continued with regard to inspection and re-visiting of premises in connection with the above Act. As a result, the necessary works to comply with the Act were completed at 45 premises. The following table lists the chief contraventions remedied:

<u>Works necessary</u>	<u>Number</u>
Cleanliness	1
Heating	7
Ventilation	5
Lighting	2
Sanitary conveniences required	2
Intervening ventilated space or mechanical ventilation provided to W.C.s	9
Lighting of W.C.s	7
Cleansing of W.C.s	1
Marking of W.C.s	9
Provision of hot water supply	17
Provision of wash hand basins	4
Clothing accommodation	3
Seats for sedentary workers	10
Floor repairs.. .. .	8
Staircases guarded etc.	5
Guarding of machinery	10
First aid materials	27
Abstract of the Act	27
Thermometer	21

During the year 164 visits were made in connection with this Act.

